

## **Mapping the Interpersonal Content of the Proposed DSM-5 Dimensional Trait Model of Personality Pathology**

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Interpersonal psychologists have long argued that personality disorders are essentially, if not entirely, disorders of interpersonal relatedness (Benjamin 1993; Kiesler, 1986). This assertion appears to have finally made its way outside of interpersonal circles, as proposed changes to the definition of personality disorder in DSM-5 includes impairment in interpersonal functioning as a primary feature. In addition to changes made to the definition of personality disorder in DSM-5, a re-conceptualization of personality pathology has been proposed whereby the personality disorder categories are replaced by a hierarchical trait dimensional model. The model consists of five higher-order trait domains and 25 lower-order facets. In the present study, we evaluate the interpersonal content inherent within the proposed DSM-5 trait model by subjecting the traits to interpersonal analysis using the structural summary method for circumplex data. A sample of undergraduate students and clinical patients, who were participants in the DSM-5 field trial, completed the new Personality Inventory for DSM-5 (PID-5; Krueger, Derringer, Markon, Watson, & Skodol, in press) and the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems – Short Circumplex (IIP-SC; Soldz, Budman, Demby, & Merry, 1995). Primary structural features including elevation, amplitude, and angular displacement are reported for each of the traits as well as an omnibus measure of goodness of fit (prototypicality). The results of this study highlight the strengths and potential limitations of the proposed trait model with respect to the assessment of personality pathology and provide guidance for potential revisions to the model.

## **Agency and Communion as Fundamental Dimensions of Psychological Climate in the Workplace**

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Psychological climate is the product of cognitive evaluations of the policies, practices, procedures, and behaviors that are rewarded, supported, and expected in a workplace environment. The organization and climate literatures lend theoretical and some empirical support to the proposition that psychological climate is based on at least the following two sources of variation: (1) subjective differences in individual meaning and (2) objective differences in the structure of interpersonal interactions. This suggests the potential viability of a theoretical model that can accommodate variability in both personality and social behavior for structuring workplace climate dimensions, such as that provided by interpersonal theory. This study compared two models of climate suggested in the organizational literature to the interpersonal model from personality and social psychology which predicts that agency and communion can structure workplace climate. Confirmatory Factor Analyses were conducted on the 12 scales of questionnaires measuring psychological climate in the workplace from 74,380 Veterans Health Administration employees. A model with higher order agency and communion factors provided the best fit to the data. These results suggest the potential to link organizational theories of psychological climate to the personality and social psychology literature through these interpersonal dimensions.

## **Perceptions of Responses to Peer Provocation**

**Julia Boggia & Melanie Dirks (McGill University)**

Peer provocation is a commonly occurring and highly consequential situation that many children struggle to manage effectively. One factor that may contribute to ineffective responding is cognitive processing occurring upstream from behavior. Increasingly, researchers are using paradigms from cognitive science, such as the similarity-ratings task, to investigate these issues. A critical first step in such work is to establish the stimulus set, which in this case will consist of strategies youth use to manage peer provocation. The current study aimed to investigate the various characteristics of these responses in order to create a stimulus set that varies according to dimensions of theoretical interest. Undergraduate students (N=88) completed a normative-ratings task in which they evaluated 110 responses to provocation on 13 different dimensions. Although a large body of work with adults supports a two-dimensional conceptualization of interpersonal behavior characterized by the dimensions quarrelsome/agreeable and dominant/submissive, our results indicated that youth responses to peer provocation, as perceived by adult raters, were not characterized by both dimensions. Instead, the two dimensions were highly correlated, such that responses that were seen as highly dominant were also seen as very quarrelsome, and increasing submissiveness was associated with greater agreeableness. These results suggest that peer provocation may represent a unique interpersonal situation with specific behavioral challenges.

## **Kicking Them While They're Down: The Effects of Perceived Warmth and Social Status on Punitive Intuitions**

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Social judgment, for the most part, is discussed in terms of resulting from a dual-process model that involves two interrelated processes. The first process consists of slower controlled (or reasoning) processes, while the second rapid automatic (or intuitive) processes are argued to be more in line with emotional responses (Adolphs, 2009; Bargh & Chartrand, 1999; Pretz & Totz, 2007; but see Greene et al., 2004, on conflicting cognitive and emotional processes). Affect has been shown to be a good predictor of individuals' intuitive social judgments. The current research tests the hypothesis that perception of others' warmth and competence, fundamental dimensions of social perception, can also come to shape intuition. In previous research, perceptions of criminals' lack of warmth were found to be important in predicting functionally relevant affective responses to criminals such as anger, uneasiness and a lack of compassion (Côté-Lussier, 2012). Anger, in turn, predicts desires to attack and exclude criminals. In the present study, the results of binary logistic regression suggest that participants (N = 60) were more likely to rapidly harshly punish pictured criminals who were low on perceived warmth. However, the results of multilevel quantile regression modelling reveal that perceived social status can be equally important in shaping punitive intuitions. The results shed light on the role of fundamental dimensions of social perception in engendering intuitive responses to others.

## **Personality Determines Love-Work Conflict Outcomes**

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Participants (n = 175) completed the PRF subscales for Achievement (Ach) and Affiliation (Aff) along with fillers and answered a 12-item forced choice questionnaire of love-work conflict scenarios. Example: “You have a midterm tomorrow on which you want to do very well. It’s also your anniversary with your significant other. Would you: (a) study diligently that evening (b) go out that evening and celebrate with your significant other.” Our student sample scored higher on PRF Ach (M = 10.29, SD = 2.97) than PRF Aff (M = 9.99, SD = 3.45) and selected more work choices (M = 6.63, range 2-12) than love choices (M = 5.37, range 0-10). Personality did predict conflict outcome. PRF Ach predicted the number of work choices,  $p = .01$  and PRF Aff predicted the number of love choices,  $p = .09$ . Results might be stronger for achievement due to the academic setting.

**You Critique Therefore I Am: Social Evaluative Influences on Beliefs about the Malleability of Intelligence**

**Sara Etchinson & Mark W. Baldwin (McGill University)**

Past research on implicit theories of intelligence has shown that whether people believe intelligence is a fixed [entity theory] or expandable [incremental theory] capacity has important consequences for motivation and learning. While it is theorized that these orientations are learned from parents and teachers during childhood (see Dweck & Molden, 2005 for review), little research has tested whether there is an ongoing role of interpersonal relationships in maintaining them during adulthood. We were specifically interested in whether these beliefs might shift to facilitate meeting current social evaluative demands. We tested this link between relationship-specific evaluation expectations and beliefs about the malleability of intelligence in two studies. In Study 1, we established that participants’ own beliefs about the malleability of intelligence correlate with the proportion of their current relationships that use improvement (versus competitive) focused types of feedback. Further, we found that self-esteem is higher when participants’ beliefs “fit” better with their social context. Study 2 showed that priming a specific relational partner whose feedback implied incremental beliefs led participants to endorse more incremental beliefs themselves. These data provide initial support for our theory that beliefs about the malleability of intelligence, as well as other propositional beliefs, are calibrated to the interpersonal evaluative context in order to facilitate attaining social acceptance from others.

**Aggression on the Water: Situational and Personality Predictors of Aggression Among Surfers**

**Nancy E. Frye & Michael Camhi (Long Island University – Post)**

Although there may be a common stereotype of surfers as a relaxed and laid back group, each year there are instances of aggression – both verbal and physical – among surfers. What factors might predict this aggression? One possibility is the environment. For instance, previous research has found more aggression in more crowded conditions, and the same may apply among surfers. One goal of the current research is to examine whether the association between crowding and aggression generalizes to surfers. A second goal of the current research is to examine the mechanisms of this association. One possible reason for an association between crowding and aggression is that there are more people who need to share the same number of resources (waves). A second possible reason is that, under crowded

conditions, it is easier to perceive provocation from other surfers. Thus, the current research aims to examine the association between two situational factors (crowding and provocation) and aggression. Furthermore, the current research examines the role of narcissism in these associations. Previous research has found that people higher in narcissism tend to engage in more aggression. Does this generalize to surfers, and, if so, in what way? To address these goals, data were collected from 85 surfers. It was found that, under conditions of more crowding, surfers reported engaging in more aggression. This association between crowding and aggression was fully mediated by perceived provocation. Additionally, narcissism was a marginally significant moderator of the association between provocation and aggression and a statistically significant moderator of the association between crowding and aggression. Those higher in narcissism demonstrated a stronger association between provocation and aggression and between crowding and aggression. Results are discussed with respect to implications for the role of situational and personality factors in aggression within recreational sports.

**Multimethod Clinical Assessment of Therapy Outcome**  
**Cato Grønnerød (University of Oslo), Jon Magnus Frostad Håkonsen, &**  
**Espen Gustavsen (Jessheim Psychiatric Clinic)**

We studied the relationship between Symptom Checklist-90 Revised (SCL-90-R), Inventory of Interpersonal Problems (IIP-64-C), and selected Rorschach Method variables related to interpersonal functioning. A sample of 21 patients was evaluated before and after short term psychodynamic therapy. Neither IIP nor SCL scores changed significantly after therapy, although the effect size for SCL changes was  $d = 0.45$ . Only one Rorschach variable showed significant change, the number of human movement responses increased to a moderate degree ( $d = 0.55$ ). Although the expected amount of change was absent, observed changes and relationships between measures were in line with Howard, Lueger, Maling, and Martinovich's (1993) phase model for therapy change.

**The Relationship Between Personality and Eating Disorders: An Examination**  
**Between Self and Informant Report**

**Tahira Gulamani, Suzanna Stevanovski & Amanda Uliaszek**  
**(University of Toronto)**

Research linking personality disorders and eating disorders has become increasingly widespread over the past few decades. Research has noted a high level of comorbidity between these disorders, ranging from 27% to 93%. (Vitousek & Manke, 1994). Past research suggests that self-report measures greatly overestimate the prevalence rate of personality disorders in anorexia nervosa (AN), bulimia nervosa (BN) and binge eating (BED). While research in this area is constantly expanding, this discrepancy between informant-report and self-report needs to be examined. This study examines the differences between informant vs. self-report measures of personality disorders in relation to anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and binge eating. A total of 420 participants were drawn from three collegiate samples. All participants completed a battery of self-report questionnaires. A subsample ( $n = 111$ ) had an informant complete a similar battery of questionnaires in reference to the participant. The relationship to the informant was as follows: friend,  $n = 55$ ; parent,  $n = 22$ ; sibling,  $n = 16$ ; significant other,  $n = 14$ ; family member – other,  $n = 4$ . Correlational analyses were conducted to determine the relationship

between personality and eating disorders. Overall, there were several inconsistencies between self- and informant- reports. Assessing personality disorders using self-report measures indicate that cluster B, with the exception of narcissism, showed the greatest overestimation across all three eating disorders. On the contrary, there were consistent estimations between self- and informant-report for cluster C. It is possible that those with cluster B symptoms may tend to overestimate their overall experience of eating disorder symptom severity. The significant variations between self- and informant- reports highlight the importance of a diagnostic interview.

## **Is Romantic Conflict a Process of Complementarity of Accommodation?**

**Renee Hunt, Pamela Sadler (Wilfrid Laurier University)**

**& David C. Zuroff (McGill University)**

One of the core tenets of interpersonal theory posits that interactions that are complementary (i.e., opposite on dominance, same on affiliation) are the most satisfying and should produce more satisfactory relationships. However, there are times when acting in a complementary manner may be destructive to a relationship, for example during conflict. Accommodation (Rusbult et al., 1991) refers to an individual's willingness when their romantic partner has engaged in a potentially destructive (or hostile) behaviour to (1) inhibit the natural impulse to react destructively in turn, i.e., correspondently, and (2) instead engage in a constructive (or friendly) reaction, i.e., non-correspondently. This response to destructive behaviour has been found to be associated with relationships that are more satisfying, more harmonious, and less distressing. There has also been some work within interpersonal theory that suggests complementarity is not always the most satisfying, particularly when hostile behaviour is met with hostile behaviour, or what Tracey (1993) termed "negative complementarity". Indeed it is suggested that this type of complementarity may lead to greater dissatisfaction within a relationship. The present study examined whether complementarity on a moment-to-moment basis is related to relationship satisfaction in romantic couples. Sixty-two couples engaged in two 10-minute interactions (neutral and conflict) which were video/audio recorded and subsequently coded using the joystick technique (established in Sadler et al., 2009) to assess moment-to-moment fluctuations in behaviour. Analyses showed that the cross correlation for partners' affiliation was significantly less positive during conflict interactions than during neutral ones. This finding is consistent with the hypothesis that tendencies toward accommodation during conflict reduce overall correspondence on affiliation. Furthermore, during neutral interactions, in which accommodation should not be relevant, couples' degree of moment-to-moment affiliation correspondence was positively related to how satisfied they were in their relationship. This finding is consistent with the hypotheses of interpersonal theory. However, the same was not true for conflict interactions; affiliation correspondence was unrelated to relationship satisfaction in this context. This finding is consistent with the idea that the moment-to-moment interpersonal processes are likely more complicated during couples' conflict interactions. We suggest that perhaps *both* processes of affiliation correspondence and accommodation are occurring during conflict interactions, particularly for more satisfied couples. Accordingly, we will discuss future work investigating the conflict interactions, in which the cross-correlation will be calculated separately for periods during which at least one of the partners is acting hostile. In this way, we can determine whether, in more satisfied couples, processes of accommodation are occurring with greater frequency during these times.

## **Fear of Compassion, Social Safeness, and Eating Disorder Severity**

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Background: Gilbert theorized that feelings of social safeness, characterized by a sense of warmth and connectedness, are essential for well-being and depend on compassion and support from others. Individuals vulnerable to psychopathology are thought to struggle to feel socially safe in part because they are mistrustful and fearful of compassion from others. In non-clinical samples, there is now evidence that social safeness (Kelly, Zuroff, Leybman, & Gilbert, in press) is reactive to received social support (RSS) and negatively linked to maladjustment (Kelly et al., in press), and that fear of compassion is associated with more symptoms of psychopathology (Gilbert, McEwan, Gibbons, Chotai, Duarte, & Matos, 2011). Objectives: We sought to extend the research on social safeness and fear of compassion in a clinical sample of eating disorder sufferers. We hypothesized that controlling for RSS, fear of compassion would be associated with more eating disorder pathology, and that lower social safeness would be a partial mediator of this relationship. Methods: 74 individuals admitted to specialized day or inpatient eating disorders treatment completed the Social Safeness and Pleasure Scale, Fear of Compassion Scale, Social Provisions Scale, and Eating Disorders Examination Questionnaire at admission. Results: Multiple regressions found that controlling for baseline RSS, fear of compassion predicted lower levels of safeness and more severe eating disorder pathology. Lower social safeness, in turn, predicted more severe eating disorder pathology controlling for fear of compassion. In support of our hypothesis, a Sobel test found that low social safeness partially mediated the relationship between fear of compassion and eating disorder symptoms. Discussion: Eating disordered patients who endorsed greater fears of compassion had more severe eating disorder pathology, explained in part by the lack of social safeness they reported. Findings support Gilbert's theory, revealing that in a clinical population, fearing and mistrusting displays of kindness and compassion make it harder to feel safe, soothed, and connected, contributing to more severe psychopathology.

## **Can Self-Complexity Ease the Sting of Rejection?**

**Erika J. Koch (St. Francis Xavier University)**

High self-complexity involves having multiple, distinct self-aspects (e.g., roles). Some research suggests that high self-complexity buffers individuals from potentially negative effects of stress and other aversive events. Recent refinements to self-complexity research suggest that a combination of multiple roles and high role harmony (i.e., low role conflict) predicts adaptive functioning (Brook, Garcia, & Fleming, 2008). The present research extends these recent findings by examining whether the high roles/high harmony combination predicts relatively less negative reactions to a relived rejection experience. In a series of computer tasks, participants (N = 100) listed their most important social roles (e.g., student, friend, romantic partner) and subsequently rated each possible pairing of their roles on three items assessing role harmony (e.g., How much conflict existed between student and friend roles). Based on random assignment, participants then recalled and briefly wrote about a previous experience of being interpersonally accepted or rejected. Finally, participants completed measures of recalled state self-esteem, state depression, negative affect, positive affect, and state anxiety. Consistent with predictions, results revealed three-way (condition x number of roles x harmony) interactions for three of the outcome variables. For each of these outcome variables, the roles x harmony interaction was statistically significant for the rejection condition, but not for the acceptance condition. In the rejection

condition, the high roles/high harmony combination predicted relatively low state depression and negative affect, and relatively high positive affect. Results suggest that possessing multiple roles that one perceives as functioning harmoniously may lessen the sting of rejection.

## **Self-Criticism, Neediness, and Connectedness as Predictors of Behavioural Variability**

**Daniel C. Kopala-Sibley, Lance M. Rappaport, Rachel Sutton, Debbie S. Moskowitz & David C. Zuroff (McGill University)**

Self-Criticism, Neediness, and Connectedness represent stable vulnerability factors to a variety of psychopathologies, and are associated with dissatisfaction in relationships and general social maladjustment. These social difficulties may be due, in part, to mean differences in the interpersonal behaviours of highly self-critical or needy individuals (Zuroff, Moskowitz, & Cote, 1999). However, nothing is known about whether these vulnerability factors are also related to greater variability in these behaviours, over and above mean-level differences. Accordingly, this study examined individual differences in the variability about the mean of individuals' interpersonal behaviours (Flux), as well as individuals' dispersion in the display of interpersonal behaviours (Spin) across events (Moskowitz & Zuroff, 2004). A sample of 113 adult community members completed a 20-day event contingent recording procedure where they recorded their interpersonal behaviours in the domains of dominance, submissiveness, agreeableness, and quarrelsomeness after each interaction of over five minutes. Self-Criticism, Neediness, and Connectedness were measured at baseline. To control for possible confounding effects of other, related personality variables, Neuroticism, Extraversion, and Agreeableness, were also assessed at baseline and adjusted for in all analyses. All models also adjusted for the individual's mean level of behaviour. Structural equation models showed that, while Neuroticism, Extraversion, and Agreeableness did not relate to any measures of behavioural variability, Self-Criticism predicted more flux in submissiveness and higher levels of spin, whereas Connectedness predicted lower levels of spin. Neediness was not associated with measures of behavioural variability when adjusting for individuals' mean levels, Connectedness, and Self-Criticism. Results may indicate that highly self-critical individuals' submissive behaviour fluctuates more in an attempt to mitigate potential losses in status relative to others. Results also suggest that Connectedness may be related to positive interpersonal outcomes (e.g. Cote et al. 2011) because of more behavioural stability in their interactions with others.

## **Effects of Depression on the Dynamics of Interpersonal Complementarity**

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When romantic partners interact together, they continually respond to each other in ways that yield distinctive across-time patterns of behaviour. To illuminate specific ways in which depression may influence the dynamics of marital communication, the present study investigated how depressive symptoms in either spouse may affect such across-time patterns of interpersonal behaviour. Using a computer joystick device, observers rated moment-to-moment levels of dominance and affiliation for each partner in videotaped conflict interactions of 60 romantic couples. As a measure of depressive symptoms, all participants completed the Beck Depression Inventory-II (BDI-II; Beck, Steer, & Brown, 1996). The data for each couple were then submitted to time series analyses, including cross-spectral

analysis. Finally, the actor-partner interdependence model was used to examine the relationships between partners depressive symptoms and indices obtained from regression and cross-spectral analyses. Results revealed that husbands and wives depressive symptoms seem to affect different moment-to-moment interpersonal behaviours in marital interactions. Specifically, wives depressive symptoms affected how dominance was handled between partners. When the wife was not dysphoric, she became less dominant whereas the husband became more dominant over time. However, when the wife reported moderate to severe depressive symptoms, over the course of the interaction she became more dominant and the husband became more submissive. In contrast, husbands' depressive symptoms appeared principally to affect affiliation patterns during conflict interactions. When the husband was not dysphoric, he became friendlier over time; whereas when he reported moderate to severe depressive symptoms, he became less friendly as the interaction progressed. In addition, husbands depressive symptoms negatively affected the couples levels of entrainment for friendliness; that is, the greater the husbands depressive symptoms, the less entrained the partners were on affiliation. In summary, wives depressive symptoms tended mainly to affect the dynamics of dominance during conflict interactions, whereas husbands depressive symptoms mainly tended to affect the dynamics of affiliation. The results shed new light on some marital interaction patterns found in earlier research, such as the demand-withdraw pattern (wife demands-husband withdraws) that has been shown to be a dysfunctional way of managing conflict (Caughlin & Huston, 2002).

## **Self and Peer Perspectives of Interpersonal Problems Associated with Narcissism**

**Mark R. Lukowitsky (Albany Medical Center) & Aaron L. Pincus (The Pennsylvania State University)**

The current study aimed to further extend the nomological net of the Pathological Narcissism Inventory (PNI; Pincus, Ansell, Pimentel, Cain, Wright, & Levy, 2009) by examining how its relationship to the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems-Short Circumplex (IIP-SC, Hopwood, Pincus, DeMoor, & Koonce, 2008) differs from that of the Narcissistic Personality Inventory (NPI-16; Ames, Rose, & Anderson, 2006). However, to provide further validation of the PNI the current study also employed a multi-method approach by including both self- and peer-ratings. A large sample of moderately acquainted individuals assigned to small groups completed self-ratings of the PNI, NPI, and the IIP-SC. Individuals also completed peer-ratings of the IIP-SC in a round robin design whereby each individual in the group served as both a target and judge. Kenny's (1994) Social Relations Model (SRM) was used to partition the variance in dyadic ratings in order to investigate the types of interpersonal problems peers associated with targets high in self-rated narcissism. Results from the analysis of self-ratings suggested that both higher order scales of the PNI (Narcissistic Grandiosity and Narcissistic Vulnerability) were associated with general interpersonal distress on the IIP-SC. In contrast, the NPI was associated with dominant and cold interpersonal problems but not with general interpersonal distress. Results from the analysis of peer ratings suggested that individuals who rated themselves high on Narcissistic Grandiosity and high on the NPI were perceived by peers as having dominant interpersonal problems. Neither the PNI nor the NPI were associated with interpersonal distress from a peer-rating perspective. Overall, results from the current study are consistent with past studies that have focused on self-ratings of narcissism and interpersonal problems. Results from the current study also suggest that peers tend to perceive individuals high in narcissism in ways that differ from the way targets view themselves and largely perceive them as having uniquely dominant interpersonal problems.



In conclusion, these results support calls for the advantages of utilizing multi-method assessments for validating self-report instruments.

### **Within-Person Covariation of Interpersonal Perception**

**Michael J. Roche, Aaron L. Pincus, Amanda L. Hyde, Nilam Ram  
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The interpersonal circumplex model proposes that Agency and Communion are two orthogonal dimensions that underlie the essence of interpersonal phenomena (e.g. Keisler, 1983). This assumption of orthogonality tends to be confirmed in between-person analyses using dispositional measures that are designed to achieve a two-dimensional orthogonal structure (Gurtman & Pincus, 2003). However, it is unclear whether this feature of interpersonal theory extends into how individuals perceive and behave in their daily lives. Benjamin (1996, 2003) suggests that individuals have a perceptual bias to experience interpersonal warmth as simultaneously affirming/autonomy-granting and to experience interpersonal coldness as simultaneously controlling. This suggests that the within-person associations of agency and communion may not be orthogonal. Empirically, Fournier, Moskowitz, and Zuroff (2009) calculated linkage estimates to quantify the extent to which the dimensions of agency and communion are unrelated (e.g. orthogonal) in interpersonal behavior. The authors found that agentic and communal behavior is in fact positively correlated with each other, that this quantification is not simply reducible to dimensions of extraversion and agreeableness, and that the positive link between agentic and communal behavior is positively related to self-esteem, and negatively related to neuroticism and depression. The present research extends the concept of orthogonality to examine whether the *perceptions* of other's agency and communion are also linked, and how this link may be related to psychopathology such as pathological narcissism. Participants were 184 (66% female) undergraduate students who participated in a 7-day diary study for course credit. They were between 18 and 54 years of age ( $M_{Age} = 19$ ,  $M_{Age} = 19.3$ ,  $SD_{Age} = 2.8$ ), predominantly Caucasian (83%) and primarily in their first (61%) or second (25%) year of college. Using multi-level models (interactions nested within persons), we tested both between-person and within-person associations between perceptions of agency and perceptions of communion. We found that momentary perceptions of agency were related to both individuals' overall perceptions of communion ( $\gamma = .38$ ,  $p < .05$ ; between-person association), and momentary perceptions of communion ( $\gamma = .29$ ,  $p < .05$ ; within-person association). Furthermore, we found that pathological narcissism moderated the relationship between momentary perceptions of communion and communal behavior, such that higher levels of narcissistic grandiosity (but not narcissistic vulnerability) reduces this positive relationship ( $\gamma = -.10$ ,  $p < .05$ ). These results are consistent with Fournier and colleagues (2009) who also found significant covariation that was linked to positive measures of adjustment in interpersonal behavior. These results will be discussed in relation to attachment theories which suggest secure attachment is promoted by perceiving warm control from caregivers (Benjamin, 1996).

### **The Role of Felt Security in Daily Interactions with a Romantic Partner on Relationship Satisfaction**

**Gentiana Sadikaj, Debbie S. Moskowitz & David C. Zuroff (McGill University)**

This study examined how felt security experienced in daily interactions with a romantic partner influences relationship satisfaction over time. Using an event-contingent recording (ECR) methodology, partners in 93 cohabiting couples recruited from the community reported on their felt security in daily interactions with each-other during a 20-day period. A measure of the tendency to feel secure with a partner was created by aggregating felt security scores across all interactions. Satisfaction was measured at the end of the and approximately 7 months after the ECR procedure. We used a multivariate latent growth curve model to examine our hypothesis. Mean level of and change in satisfaction over time were represented by two latent parameters (i.e., intercept and change score) capturing shared and unshared variance in relationship satisfaction scores across the two measurement periods. To test the influence of felt security on relationship satisfaction, we constructed regression paths from a person's (i.e., actor effect) and his/her partner's (i.e., partner effect) felt-security to the person's mean level of and change in satisfaction. Results indicated that there was a decline in relationship satisfaction over time for both men and women. Across both genders, individuals were less satisfied with their relationship if both they and their partner experienced lower levels of felt security in interactions with each other. In addition, men whose partner felt more insecure experienced a greater decline in relationship satisfaction than men whose partner felt less insecure. Women's change in satisfaction was not related to their own felt security or partner's felt security. Findings suggest that dissatisfaction with the relationship is accounted for by the security felt by a person and by his/her partner during daily interactions with each other. Thus, individuals who feel more insecure with their partner and whose partner experience more insecurity in interaction with them are less satisfied with their relationship. In addition, men whose partners feel more insecure relative to men whose partners experience less insecurity also report greater decline in relationship satisfaction over time. Findings inform treatment of distressed couples by targeting the impact of a person's felt security in daily interactions with the partner on their evaluation of their relationship.

## **Agreement of Young Adults with Family and Peer Informants in Reporting Anxiety Disorders**

**Antonette Scavone & Amanda A. Uliaszek (University of Toronto Scarborough)**

The use of multiple informants can improve reliability when assessing individuals for mental disorders. A large number of studies have investigated the correlation of agreement between self- and informant-reports for child and adolescent psychopathology. A growing number of studies have found parent-child agreements for anxiety disorders to be quite low, and satisfactory to high peer-self agreement among young individuals for anxiety and other internalizing disorders (Safford et al., 2005; Renk et al., 2004). This study aimed to identify whether the strong peer-self correlations of internalizing disorders (e.g. anxiety and depression) found for children are also found in a young adult sample. As strong peer-self correlations have been reported, it is hypothesized that peer informants will correlate more strongly with self-reports of anxiety disorders than will family informants. Three ethnically diverse collegiate samples were drawn ( $n = 420$ ); the sample had a mean age of 20 and was 58% female. Participants completed a battery of self-report questionnaires, with a subsample having an informant complete a similar battery about the participant. Informants were divided into two groups; family, consisting of parents, siblings, and other family members ( $n = 42$ ) and peer, consisting of friends and significant others ( $n = 67$ ). Independent samples t-tests were used to determine differences between family and peer informants. These analyses were followed up by correlational analyses to determine consistencies between the type of informant and the self-report. Family and peer informants

significantly differed in their ratings of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD;  $t = -2.31, p < 0.05$ ) and social phobia (SP;  $t = -2.03, p < 0.05$ ), but not panic disorder ( $t = -.42, ns.$ ) or generalized anxiety disorder ( $t = .15, ns.$ ). Family informants were more consistent with self-report data for both OCD ( $r = .45$ ) and SP ( $r = .29$ ) when compared to peer informants for OCD ( $r = -.09$ ) and SP ( $r = .10$ ). The greater accuracy of family informants may be due to the level of intimacy between the participant and the informant as the individual ages, as well as their comfort in self-disclosing information of mental illness to their family member as opposed to their peer. The length of the relationship of the individual and the informant may also affect the results, as certain anxiety disorders emerge at young ages, allowing family members more time to identify symptoms. These findings suggest that further research of self- and informant-report agreement of anxiety disorders is required for adults.

### **A Pilot Study of Physiological Anxiety Responses to Interpersonal Behaviors**

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**& Christopher J. Hopwood (Michigan State University)**

From an interpersonal perspective (Sullivan, 1953), personality is defined by interpersonal interactions, the purpose of which is to minimize anxiety by satisfying needs for security and self-esteem. Insofar as coldness is a barrier to communal security, it might be expected to provoke anxiety. Conversely, needs for self-esteem may be satisfied by either submissive or dominant behavior depending on an individual's motives and self-perceptions. Implications of these postulations were investigated in a pilot study (9 dyads) by associating participant skin conductance, a physiological indicator of anxiety, with a dyadic partner's momentary behavior assessed every half-second via momentary cross-correlations and cross-spectral analyses. Within dyad cross-correlations between warmth and skin conductance ranged from  $-.55$  to  $.24$  (mean  $r = -.13$ ; mean weighted coherence =  $.40$ ). Cross-correlations between dominance and skin conductance ranged from  $-.33$  to  $.32$  (mean  $r = -.03$ ; mean weighted coherence =  $.32$ ). Consistent with the implications of interpersonal theory, cold behavior typically provoked electrodermal reactivity while the relation between dominant behavior and skin conductance did not display a typical direction. However, large mean weighted coherence values (similar to squared correlation values) for both associations suggest that the wave forms of others' behavior account for a considerable amount of variance in skin conductance, and point to potential individual differences in the degree to which others' dominant or cold behavior is experienced as stressful.

### **Interpersonal Complementarity and Stress in a Parent-Adolescent Interaction Task**

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Adolescence is a period in which parent and child interpersonal interactions and behaviors have potential to influence stress reactions, subsequent relationship outcomes, and substance use (Adalbjarnardottir and Hafsteinsson, 2001; Baumrind, 1991). The present study examines these interpersonal interactions at the behavioral level using moment-by-moment analysis of a video-taped

parent and adolescent interaction task. During a laboratory session, 48 parents and adolescents discussed a topic, rated by both as highly-conflictual, for ten minutes. The video-taped interactions were later examined for interpersonal behaviors and complementarity of friendliness and dominance every half second via momentary cross-correlations using the joystick methodology (Sadler et al., 2009). A logistic regression predicting past 30-day drug use in adolescence found that parents' submissiveness in the interaction task was associated with a greater likelihood of drug use among the adolescents. Parental submissiveness was also associated with the child's reported anxiety ( $r$  range = .16 to .37) and frustration ( $r$  range = .13 to .42) ratings for an hour post task. Additionally, child's dominant and hostile behaviors were associated with greater reported frustration immediately post interaction task ( $r$  = .32 and .40, respectively). The present findings suggest that parent and child social behaviors during conflictual interactions may have an important influence on youth's substance use.

## **The Examination of Personality Disorders from Self- and Informant-Report Ratings on the Five-Factor Model**

**Suzanna Stevanovski, Tahira Gulamani, Antonette Scavone, Brenda Swampillai & Amanda Uliaszek (University of Toronto Scarborough)**

Many assessment measures of personality disorders (PDs) are self-report, with the most common format being self-report questionnaires. However, there are numerous limitations to using self-report for the diagnosis of PDs. The use of informant data appears to improve the validity and reliability of diagnosing PDs. Informant reports are not only used as useful supplements for self-report questionnaires, but can provide important incremental information about the presence and/or absence of pathological personality traits. There are dozens of studies that have examined the relationship between PDs and the Five Factor Model (FFM) (Widiger & Costa, 2002), we could not find any study that examined the discrepancy between self- and informant-report questionnaire data on how FFM PD trait profiles differ. A total of 420 participants were drawn from three collegiate samples. All participants completed a battery of self-report questionnaires. A subsample ( $n = 111$ ) had an informant complete a battery of questionnaires in reference to the participant. To determine self- and informant-report trait profiles for each Axis II disorder, we correlated a symptom score with each factor of the FFM. Correlational analyses were conducted using SPSS version 20.0. In general, there were no striking dissimilarities where self- and informant-reports showed associations in the opposite direction. However, no self- and informant-report profiles were perfectly matched. For four out of five PDs, the informant-report profiles showed a less extreme personality profile than the self-report profiles. For example, all PDs were characterized by low agreeableness, (A) highlighting the interpersonal difficulties experienced by people with PDs however, this was only true for self-report. This suggests that those with PD symptoms are aware of their low A, although this is not always apparent to friends and family. While much research suggests that people with PDs are frequently unable to view themselves realistically and are unaware of the effect of their behavior on others, we found that people with PDs rated themselves as more extreme on personality traits than did the informant reporters. This highlights the importance of including informant-reports when examining Axis II disorders.

**Individual Difference in Reciprocity**  
**Rachel Sutton & Debbie S. Moskowitz (McGill University)**

The principles of complementarity (correspondence for communal behaviour and reciprocity for agentic behaviour) are central to interpersonal theory. Although they are thought to hold for most people, there have been mixed findings for reciprocity. Previous studies of complementarity have grouped all participants together so as to identify general principles; mixed findings may have resulted because these principles do not hold for all individuals. Our study used an event-contingent recording procedure for which 113 community adults reported on their social interactions of 5 minutes or longer over the course of 20 days. It was expected that most participants would follow the principle of reciprocity for the dimension of agency, but that a substantial proportion of the sample would display correspondence on agency by showing higher dominance and lower submissiveness in response to perceptions of greater dominance by others. Consistent with expectations, less than 10% of participants went against the grain for correspondence on the agreeableness-quarrelsomeness dimension. Contrary to past theorizing about the principle of reciprocity, about a third of participants displayed correspondence on the dominant-submissive dimension, that is, they increased their dominant behaviour (30%) and decreased their submissive behaviour (37%) in response to greater perceived dominance. Surprisingly, participants whose behaviour conformed to the principle of reciprocity (decreased submissive behaviour in response to greater perceived dominance) had higher depression scores. Results suggest the importance of taking into account individual differences when examining the consequences of reciprocity in agency.

### **Linking Interpersonal Styles and Humor Styles**

**Takakuni Suzuki (Villanova University), David P. Marino (University of Toronto),  
Jason Strickhouser & Patrick Markey (Villanova University)**

In order to investigate the interpersonal meaning of humor, the relations between humor styles and the Interpersonal Circumplex (IPC) were examined. One-hundred-and- twenty-seven participants reported their humor styles using the Humor Styles Questionnaire (HSQ). These participants' interpersonal styles were also assessed using the eight octants of the IPC. By employing the structural summary method, results indicated that all humor styles produced high levels of interpersonal content, but slightly different interpersonal profiles. Affiliative and self-enhancing humor styles, which are often viewed as adaptive humor styles, were strongly associated with the gregarious-extraverted octant of the IPC. Whereas, aggressive and self-defeating humor styles, which are often viewed as maladaptive humor styles, were most highly associated with the assured-dominant and arrogant-calculating octants of the IPC.

### **An Examination of Borderline Personality Disorder across Different Socio-Economic Status School Communities in Chicago**

**Brenda Swampillai & Amanda Uliaszek (University of Toronto Scarborough)**

Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD) is a disorder characterized by a pervasive pattern of instability of interpersonal relationships, self-image and emotions. Research has shown that risk factors for BPD include abandonment in childhood or adolescence, disrupted family life, poor communication in the family, neglect and childhood abuse. Similarly, many of these risk factors appear more frequently in low socioeconomic status (SES) communities. While disadvantaged socio-economic status has long been identified as a particular risk factor for mental health problems, level of risk for BPD in different

SES school communities has not been explored. For young adults, educational attainment is often moderated by the SES of their family. This study compares levels of BPD in a private university, public university and community college all in Chicago. A total of 420 participants were drawn from the three collegiate samples. A one-way ANOVA was completed to compare means within the self-report questionnaires for the Borderline Symptom List 23 (BSL-23) between the three schools. The results indicated that there was a statistically significant finding in the rates of BPD between the private university ( $m=.24$ ,  $SD=.49$ ) and the community college ( $m=1.64$ ,  $SD=.54$ ). There were no striking dissimilarities between the public university ( $m=.24$ ,  $SD=.18$ ) and the other school communities. These findings suggest that students attending community college may be more at risk for BPD, possibly because they have increased interpersonal life stressors compared to the other samples. This might include, problems with family members, being a parent, or emotional dysregulation related to struggling financially. It also may be the case that those experiencing symptoms of BPD have increased difficulty in school and are thus more likely to attend a community college as well. Regardless of the causal direction, this highlights the need for prevention programs in community colleges to teach appropriate emotion regulation skills to prevent development of BPD and its associated risk for suicide.

### **Pathological Narcissism and Affective Reactions in Social Interactions**

**Emily R. Wilhite, Michael J. Roche, Aaron L. Pincus, David E. Conroy,  
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This study examined the influence of grandiose and vulnerable narcissism on the level of negative affect in reaction to the interpersonal perception of others. We predicted that perceiving increased agency would evoke negative affect in individuals high in narcissistic grandiosity, while perceiving decreased communion would evoke negative affect in individuals high in narcissistic vulnerability. To test this we collected data from 184 undergraduate participants who completed repeated daily diary questionnaires during a 7-day period. Results found that individuals with higher levels of narcissistic grandiosity reported higher levels of negative affect in response to perceiving other individuals as more agentic than usual, consistent with our hypothesis. Within this grandiosity factor, the exploitativeness subscale (Pathological Narcissism Inventory; Pincus et al., 2009) was also associated with significantly more arousal in reaction to perceiving others as more agentic. Our second hypothesis was not confirmed; while individuals with higher levels of narcissistic vulnerability had higher overall levels of negative affect, perceiving decreased communion was not associated with changes in negative affect. We will discuss the implications of these results to the broader understanding of how narcissism presents in an individual's daily life, and highlight the importance of conceptualizing narcissism more broadly (e.g. grandiosity and vulnerability).

### **Interpersonal Dimensions Moderate the Effect of Dating Violence on Mood and Anxiety Symptoms**

**Matthew M. Yalch, Brittany K. Lannert, Alytia A. Levendosky  
& Christopher J. Hopwood (Michigan State University)**

Although anxiety and depression are commonly reported outcomes following the experience of dating violence among young adult women, not all women who experience dating violence develop symptoms of either anxiety or depression. One factor that has been demonstrated to influence the

presence of symptoms of psychopathology following the experience of stressful events is personality. This study will examine the main and moderating effects of interpersonal conceptualizations of personality using the interpersonal circumplex (IPC) on symptoms of mood and anxiety within the context of dating violence. Measurements of IPC dimensions, symptoms of anxiety and depression, and dating violence were gathered from a sample of young adult women attending a large Midwestern university ( $N = 565$ ). These data were analyzed through a series of hierarchical linear regressions. Preliminary results indicate that both dominance and warmth exert main effects on depressive and anxious symptoms, and that dominance serves as a protective factor against these symptoms within the context of dating violence. Treatment and research implications of these results will also be reviewed.

### **Pathways from Received Social Support, Self-Compassion, and Self-Criticism to Agreeable, Quarrelsome, and Submissive Behavior: The Mediating Role of Social Safeness**

**David C. Zuroff (McGill University), Allison C. Kelly (University of Toronto, Toronto General Hospital), Michelle J. Leybman, Gentiana Sadikaj (McGill University) & Paul Gilbert (Kingsway Hospital)**

Gilbert et al. (2008, 2009) postulated that *social safeness* is a distinct positive affective state characterized by feelings of warmth and connectedness to others. Social safeness is hypothesized to fluctuate in response to signals of care from others and from oneself and, in turn, to increase affiliative behavior and decrease defensive behavior towards others. We sought to test Gilbert's theory of social safeness in a daily diary study. 100 college students completed daily measures of affect, social safeness, social support, self-compassion, self-criticism, and interpersonal behavior for one week. Social safeness was distinct from positive affect, negative affect, and perceived social support. Multilevel structural equation modeling revealed that, within-persons, social safeness was predicted by: 1) received social support; 2) self-compassion; and 3) inversely by self-criticizing. Within-persons, social safeness predicted more agreeable, less quarrelsome and less submissive behavior. Indirect paths from social support, self-compassion, and self-criticism to the three interpersonal behaviors were all significant. Similar but less robust effects were found between-persons. The results demonstrated that social safeness is linked in theoretically expected ways to how others treat us and to how we treat ourselves, and that it predicts how we behave towards others. Complementarity on the communal axis may be partly mediated by social safeness, i.e., received social support => more safeness => more communal behavior. Clinical and organizational implications are identified.